क्षेत्र	शामिल राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र
5. पश्चिमी क्षेत्र	महाराष्ट्र, गुजरात, गोवा दमण, व द्वीप, दादर एंव नगर हवेली
6. मध्य क्षेत्र	उत्तर प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश

मध्य क्षेत्र को छोड़ सभी क्षेत्रों से संबंधित इन समितियों की बैठकों का पहला दौर 1987-1990 के दौरान आयोजित किया गया था। समितियों की बैठकों का दूसरा दौर पूर्वी तथा उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र का 29 से 30 सितम्बर, 1994 को भुवनेश्वर में, दक्षिणी क्षेत्र का 4 अक्तूबर, 1994 को त्रिवेन्द्रम में तथा मध्य तथा उत्तरी क्षेत्रों का 25 अक्तूबर, 1994 को जयपुर में आयोजित किया गया था। पश्चिमी क्षेत्र संबंधी समिति की बैठक दिसम्बर, 1994 में आयोजित किए जाने का प्रस्ताव है। प्रथम दौर और साथ ही साथ दूसरे दौर की बैठकों ने न्यूनतम मजदूरी संबंधी अनेक सिफारिशें की हैं। इनमें एक ही क्षेत्र के विभिन्न राज्यों में न्यूनतम मजदूरी में असमानता कम करना, उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक से संबद्ध विशेष भत्ते के प्रावधान का प्रावधान जहां उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक से संबद्ध विशेष भत्ते का प्रावधान नहीं है वहां दो वर्षों के अंतराल में न्यूनतम मजदूरी में संशोधन न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम के अंतर्गत दण्डिक उपबन्धों में वृद्धि, न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम के प्रवर्तन को सुदृढ़ करना, न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम के प्रावधानों का व्यापक प्रचार, न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन में बेहतर अंतर राज्य समन्वय आदि सम्मिलित है। इन सभी सिफारिशों को कार्यान्वयन हेतु संबंधित राज्य/संघ शासित क्षेत्रों को भेज दिया गया है।

ifoa-ore export to Japaa

SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to reduce the export of iron-ore to Japan ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) At present i Iron ore is being exported to Japan I by MMTC and KIOCL under a 5 year contract. Iron ore of Goan origin, being decanalised, is also ex-j ported to Japan by private sector producers.

Cheating consumers by printing in- flated maximum retail prices

H76. SHRI O. P. KOHLI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the maximum retail price printed on a product is highly inflated figure having no relevance with the reasonable price of the product consequent to which the consumers are being cheated UH^{S} batedly by the manufacturers and retailers;

(b) if so, what steps Govern- ment propose to take or have taken to suitably safeguard the interests of consumers at the hands of such manufacturers and retailers;

(c) whether there is any proposal to review the provision of the Weights and Measures Act to specify the maximum retail prii

(d) if so, the details there of and the action taken thereon ;

(e) whether there is also any pro posal to print the ex-factory price on the packaged coiumpdities and cloth to safeguard the interests of i consumers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) The Ministry's attention has been drawn to some reports stating

that the price marked on some of the pre-packed commodities is higher than the actual selling price. The declared sale price on a prepackage includes various pricing components like taxes, freight, commissions, etc. The price pimted is only the maximum price and the actual selling price may be lower than the marked price depending up on these factors.

(b) to (d) The Ministry has constituted an Expert Committee comprising of representatives of Trade and Industry, Voluntary Consumer Organisations and Government bodies to review and suggest the best method of marking the retail sale price on pre-packed commodities which could be incorporated, if feasible, in the Standards of weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules.

(e) and (f) In its first meeting, the Expert Committee viewed that the manufacturers may be asked to print the 'ex-factory price' on all pre-packed commodities in addition to the Maximum Retail Sale Price. However, the representatives of Trade and Industry Associations have expressed their difficulties in the implementation of this proposition.

Unemployment in the country

377. SHRI TRTLOKI NATH CHATURVEDI :

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of un employed persons in the country during the years 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1 994, together with the break-up in terms of rural urban and male and female ;

(b) what is the actual number of jobs created and the target fixed in the Eighth Plan in Government and private sectors •;

(c) what is the rate of growth of employment during the above period; and

(d) what will be the backlog of unemployment as on March, 1995 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRl GIRIDHAR GAMANGO) : (a) The estimated unemployment in the country as at the end of March of each year for 1991 to 1994 is given below :—

Year (at the end of March)	Unemployment (millions)
1991	13.4
1992	17.0
1993	17.3
1994	18.5

Break-up according to rural and urban male and female is not available.

(b) The Eighth Plan (1992-97) envisaged creation of 43 million additional employment opportuni ties during the Plan period. It has been estimated that 6.4 million employment opportunities were crea ted during 1992-93 and 5.6 million during 1993-94. According to the Quick Estimates available? Public sector employment increased by 0.18 million during 1992-93 but declined by 0.51 million durine 1993-94.

(c) Employment is estimated to have grown by 2.1 per cent during 1992-93 and 1.8 per cent during 1993-94. *h*